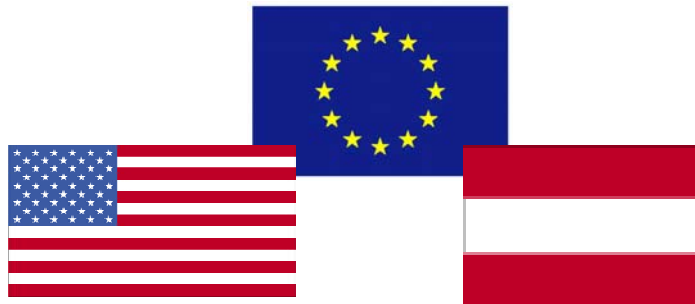


EU SPOTLIGHT

No. 2, January 2006



Österreich 2006 • Präsidentschaft der Europäischen Union
Austria 2006 • Presidency of the European Union
Autriche 2006 • Présidence de l'Union européenne



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U.S. GOVERNMENT ITEMS

[U.S. Ambassador to EU Gray Sworn In to Office](#)

U.S. Mission to the EU, January 20, 2006

C. Boyden Gray was sworn in as the Representative of the United States of America to the European Union, with the Rank and Status of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, on Jan. 20. President Bush announced his nomination July 25, 2005, and recess appointed him on Jan. 17, 2006.

Before becoming ambassador, Gray was a partner with Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP in Washington, D.C. He previously served as White House Counsel and as Legal Counsel to the Vice President. Earlier in his career, he clerked for the Honorable Earl Warren, Chief Justice, United States Supreme Court. Gray received his bachelor's degree from Harvard University and his J.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

[PERSONNEL ANNOUNCEMENT](#), The White House, January 17, 2006

[TRANSCRIPT OF SENATE HEARING](#) for U.S. Ambassador to EU Nominee Gray, September 19, 2005

[FULL STATEMENT](#) (pdf) prepared for Senate hearing, September 19, 2005

[Breaking Seals, Breaking Commitments: Iran's Nuclear Program](#) (pdf)

Ambassador Schulte says Iran is taking steps to produce a nuclear weapon, January 19, 2006

Iran has broken faith with the world community by breaking more than 50 seals at three sites on equipment necessary for uranium enrichment, which could lead to the construction of nuclear bombs, says the U.S. ambassador to the International Atomic Energy Agency.

"Iranian authorities took another step toward securing unrestrained access to the technology, material, and know-how necessary to produce a nuclear weapon," Ambassador Gregory L. Schulte said January 19 in a speech at Amerika Haus in Vienna, Austria.

Western nations are concerned that Iran's nuclear program will lead to the development of nuclear weapons, creating instability in the Persian Gulf and pose a growing threat to the broader Middle East. Iranian leaders, for their part, have insisted that Iran's nuclear research is strictly for civilian energy use.

The IAEA will hold a special meeting of its 35-nation Board of Governors February 2 with Iran on the agenda, Schulte said.



Ambassador Gregory L. Schulte

[U.S. and Europe: Advancing the Freedom Agenda Together](#)

Remarks by Daniel Fried, Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs

Baltimore Council on Foreign Affairs, Baltimore, Maryland, January 18, 2006

The United States and Europe are "essentially united" in the task of advancing freedom around the world, a senior State Department official said January 18 in a wide-ranging foreign policy speech.

"Support for freedom is not just a tactic or tool in America's national security strategy -- it is THE core concept of our national grand strategy and, I believe, has been so for a century," said Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs Daniel Fried in a speech to the Baltimore Council on Foreign Affairs.

Fried outlined how the United States and Europe are working on a freedom agenda worldwide -- not only in the Balkans, Eastern Europe and Eurasia, but also in the broader Middle East, including Iran.

"America cannot advance freedom alone. Nor are we alone. Europe and the United States are essentially united in this great task. Together, we are putting the political, economic and security assets of the transatlantic community to work outside Europe in support of freedom-seekers around the world," he said.

Fried spoke of “a growing consensus that the purpose of U.S.-European cooperation is not to manage problems, or serve as a regulator of value-free competition, but to support common action in the pursuit of freedom.”...

Rice, EU's Solana Skeptical About Further Nuclear Talks with Iran

Secretary of State says Iran must demonstrate it is serious about negotiations

Washington File, January 18, 2006

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and European Union (EU) foreign policy chief Javier Solana said January 18 that it makes no sense to have further talks with Iran concerning its nuclear research program unless Iran can demonstrate it is willing to modify its behavior.

“I think it's up to the Iranians to demonstrate that they're not just talking, that they're serious,” Rice said during a press briefing with Solana prior to a meeting in Washington.

“France has already responded concerning whether or not they think it would make any sense to have discussions with the Iranians at this point, and my understanding is they believe it would not because it's the Iranians who walked away from the negotiations, who broke the moratorium. And as that condition exists, I am sensing from the Europeans that there's not much to talk about,” she said....

REMARKS With European Union Commission High Representative Javier Solana Before Their Meeting, Secretary Condoleezza Rice, Washington, D.C., January 18, 2006



Secretary Rice, accompanied by European Union Commission High Representative Javier Solana, gestures during their photo session at the State Department in Washington, Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2006
© AP/WWP

U.S. Scholar Sees Fresh Start in Trans-Atlantic Relations

William Drozdiak discusses new German government, Merkel visit to United States

By Lawrence Schwartz, Washington File Staff Writer, January 18, 2006

Washington - The Bush administration wants to see the new German government headed by Chancellor Angela Merkel get the German economy moving again and work with the United States to deal with challenges such as Russia and Iran, according to a well-known observer of trans-Atlantic relations, William Drozdiak.

In an Internet webchat January 17, Drozdiak, the president of the American Council on Germany, discussed what lies ahead in trans-Atlantic relations after a visit by Merkel to Washington that he called “successful ... in that she was able to establish a personal rapport with President Bush that seems much warmer than the relationship between [former German Chancellor Gerhard] Schroeder and Bush.”...

Drozdiak also called attention to the domination of global issues in European-American relations nowadays.

WEBCCHAT TRANSCRIPT, January 17, 2006

Land Mine Removal in Ecuador, Peru Helped by European Commission

Europeans commit \$1.2 million for U.S.-backed program to remove land mines

By Eric Green, Washington File Staff Writer, January 18, 2006

Washington -- The European Commission has committed 1 million euros (about \$1.2 million) to support land mine removal efforts in Ecuador and Peru under an inter-American program backed by the United States.

In a January 18 statement, the Organization of American States (OAS) said the land mines in Ecuador and Peru are located on the countries' mutual border in the Condor Mountain Range. The land mines were planted during a long-running territorial dispute between the two countries at the end of the 20th century....

Bush, Belgian Prime Minister Discuss Trans-Atlantic Ties, Congo

Trans-Atlantic relations have improved, Bush and Verhofstadt agree

Washington File, January 17, 2006

Washington -- President Bush welcomed Belgian Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt to the White House January 17 where they discussed a number of issues including the situation in the Congo, European defense structures and updating of a U.S.-Belgian tax treaty.

Bush said the discussion was wide-ranging, and focused on “the importance of trans-Atlantic relations, about how it’s important for the United States to work with the European Union to reach common objectives and to help work together to make this world a more peaceful place and a better place for people.”

The two agreed that trans-Atlantic relations have improved, Verhofstadt said during the joint photo opportunity with Bush. “There is certainly a lot of work still to do,” he continued, “and I think that common point of view and a common policy of the U.S. and of Europe on issues like the Middle East, like Iran, is certainly absolutely necessary and can improve this trans-Atlantic relationship.”....

PRESIDENT WELCOMES BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER to the White House, January 17, 2006

Talks in London on Iran Yield Plans for IAEA Board Meeting

White House Report, January 17: Iran, Poland

Washington File, January 17, 2006

Informal talks among France, Germany, the United Kingdom, China, Russia and the United States on Iran’s nuclear program have caused all parties to agree to an emergency February 2-3 meeting of the board of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), White House press secretary Scott McClellan said.

U.S. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs R. Nicholas Burns participated in those informal talks.

Speaking to the press January 17, McClellan said the London discussions allowed the parties to exchange views over Iran’s decision to resume uranium enrichment and reprocessing activities, which eventually could allow the government in Tehran to produce nuclear weapons.....

TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS BRIEFING by Scott McClellan, The White House, January 12, 2006

Review of European Security Issues

Washington File, January 13, 2006

NATO leaving Pakistan; NATO mission in Afghanistan; Military plans for bird flu; Kosovo status talks; No Europe-style bases in Iraq; Bush, Merkel discuss security issues

State's Burns To Consult in London on Iran Nuclear Issue

Under Secretary for Political Affairs also to visit India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

Washington File, January 13, 2006

U.S. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs R. Nicholas Burns travels to London January 16 for talks with the other permanent members of the U.N. Security Council – the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Russia and China -- on the Iran nuclear issue, according to a State Department media note issued January 13.....

MEDIA NOTE “Under Secretary for Political Affairs R. Nicholas Burns’ Travel to the United Kingdom, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka,” Office of the Spokesman/U.S. Department of State, January 13, 2006

Rice Says Iran Rejected Peaceful Civilian Nuclear Program

U.S. Secretary of State says nuclear weapons are clearly Iran's objective

Washington File, January 13, 2006

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice says that Iran has rejected offers from the European Union (EU) and Russian negotiators that would have allowed it to develop a peaceful civilian nuclear power program and that it is now time for the U.N. Security Council to weigh in on what she says is undoubtedly a nuclear weapons program.

“Everybody gave them a chance to have civilian nuclear power without the proliferation risks of having what we call the entire fuel cycle; that is, the ability to enrich and reprocess,” Rice told CBS News in a January 12 interview. “They refused the European Union’s very generous offer, which also would have had all kinds of trade benefits attached to it. The Russians came up with another idea of a kind of joint venture. They showed little interest in that.”

Instead, she said, Iran recently announced that it would end a two-year moratorium on its nuclear activities and broke the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) seals at its Natanz facility, where Iran is engaged in research aimed at building a centrifuge plant for enriching uranium. ...

[TRANSCRIPT of Interview on CBS Evening News With John Roberts, Secretary Condoleezza Rice, Washington, D.C., January 12, 2006](#)

[Rice Calls for Security Council To Take Up Iranian Nuclear Issue](#) **United States joins EU foreign ministers in calling for U.N. involvement**

By David Shelby, Washington File Staff Writer, 12 January 2006

Washington – U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice joined her European counterparts January 12 in calling for a referral of the Iranian nuclear issue to the U.N. Security Council.

Iran's decision to remove the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) seals from its

nuclear research facilities "demonstrates that it has chosen confrontation with the international community over cooperation and negotiation," Rice said.

"We agree that the Iranian regime's defiant resumption of uranium enrichment work leaves the EU with no choice but to request an emergency meeting of the IAEA board of governors. That meeting would be to report Iran's noncompliance with its safeguards obligations to the U.N. Security Council," she said.

Foreign ministers of Germany, France and Great Britain (collectively known as the EU-3) and EU foreign policy chief Javier Solana issued a statement January 12 saying EU-3 negotiations with Iran have come to a dead end. "We believe the time has now come for the Security Council to become involved," they said in the joint statement.

[ON-THE-RECORD BRIEFING](#) by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Washington, D.C., January 12, 2006

[STATEMENT](#) (pdf) by Germany, United Kingdom, France and the EU High Representative on the Iranian nuclear issue, Berlin, January 12, 2006



The foreign ministers from France, Philippe Douste-Blazy, Britain, Jack Straw and Germany, Frank-Walter Steinmeier and Javier Solana, European Union foreign policy chief, from left, briefed the media after a meeting in Berlin on Thursday Jan. 12, 2006. In a joint statement, they cited Iran's "documented record of concealment and deception" and charged that its government was "intent on turning its back on better relations with the international community." © AP/WWP

[European Union Economic Overview](#)

Fact Sheet, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs/ U.S. Department of State, January 12, 2006

The 25-nation European Union (EU), with 460 million residents, is the world's largest economic area. EU aggregate GDP was \$12.86 trillion in 2004, and per capita GDP averaged \$28,000, with wide divergences across member states. Buoyed by a robust global expansion, with growth over 5%, EU GDP expanded 2.5% in 2004. EU GDP growth slowed to around 1.6% for 2005, but is projected to strengthen to 2.1% in 2006. Corresponding growth for the 12-nation Euro Area was 2.0% in 2004, around 1.2% in 2005, and a projected 1.8% in 2006. Drivers of growth include rising domestic demand—including private investment—and exports. EU inflation ticked up from 2.1% in 2004 to 2.3% in 2005 and a projected 2.2% in 2006, mostly due to energy price hikes. Manufacturing is strengthening slightly and unemployment is dipping from 9.0% in 2004 to 8.5% in 2005 and 2006.

[Iran Risking "Escalation" of Nuclear Standoff, White House Says](#)

Press Secretary McClellan also comments on Iraq, Pakistan

Washington File, January 10, 2006

Washington -- Iran's removal of United Nations seals from nuclear equipment at its Natanz facility risks a "serious escalation" of the country's standoff with the international community over its nuclear program, White House press secretary Scott McClellan said.

Speaking to the press January 10, McClellan repeated his warning that the issue might need referral to the U.N. Security Council if Iran does not comply with previous agreements and "does

not negotiate in good faith” with the international community. The press secretary said that “a growing majority within the international community” shares this view. Should Iran proceed with uranium enrichment and reprocessing, it further will violate the November 2004 Paris agreement negotiated with France, Germany and the United Kingdom (the EU-3), he said....

TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS BRIEFING by Scott McClellan, The White House, January 10, 2006

U.S. Disagrees with EU's "Cash Only" Food Assistance Policy

EU's overall food aid assistance is down more than 250 percent since 1995

By Tim Receveur, Washington File Staff Writer, January 9, 2006

Washington – Since the European Commission and its member states moved to a “cash only” approach for providing food aid in 1996, overall aid levels have seen a steep decline, according to the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative.

The United States and international relief experts say that the European Union’s “cash-only” plan to purchase food locally is less effective than shipping humanitarian relief to places in need and leaves fewer options for getting food aid to the world’s 850 million people living with hunger. One of the most vocal critics of cash-only food aid has been the United Nations World Food Program (WFP) -- the world’s largest humanitarian organization. The WFP has called for all countries to leave in-kind food donations in place.

White House Says Iran's Nuclear Program May Need U.N. Referral

Press Secretary McClellan reacts to Iranian decision to resume nuclear research

Washington File, January 9, 2006

Washington -- White House press secretary Scott McClellan said that while the Bush administration continues to support peaceful efforts to resolve the standoff over Iran’s nuclear program, the issue might need to be referred to the U.N. Security Council if Tehran continues to refuse to comply with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Speaking January 9, McClellan said a “growing majority of the international community” is telling Iran that it needs to comply with its agreements and to negotiate with interlocutors such as France, Germany and the United Kingdom, (the EU-3), as well as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) “in good faith about the way forward.”

“If those negotiations run their course and Iran does not act in good faith and does not come into compliance, then there is no other option but for the international community to look to the Security Council,” McClellan said....

TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS BRIEFING by Scott McClellan, The White House, January 9, 2006

United States Welcomes EU Candidate Status for Macedonia

State Department says decision "sends a positive message" throughout Balkans

Washington File, December 21, 2005

Washington -- The United States has welcomed a decision by the European Union (EU) formally to grant candidate status to the Republic of Macedonia, a move the State Department says will encourage other countries in the Balkans.

“The United States welcomes the decision by the European Council of Ministers to grant Macedonia candidate status for the European Union,” the State Department said in written response to a question asked at the December 20 daily press briefing. “We congratulate the government and people of Macedonia for the tremendous progress the country has made in the last four years.”

European Union leaders officially made Macedonia a candidate for membership early on December 17 at the end of a two-day EU summit. In their announcement, EU ministers praised Macedonia’s reforms since 2001 and said progress on free-market and democracy issues would have to continue. ...

MACEDONIA: EU MEMBERSHIP, Question Taken at December 20, 2005 Daily Press Briefing, Office of the Spokesman/ U.S. Department of State

EU's Solana Says 1,000 People a Day Use Gaza Border Crossing

Secretary of State Rice helped negotiate Israeli-Palestinian deal in November

By Vince Crawley, Washington File Staff Writer, December 20, 2005

Washington – A senior European diplomat says more than 1,000 people a day are now traveling between Egypt and the Palestinian Territories using the historic border crossing negotiated in November by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

Since the Rafah crossing opened November 26, “more than 20,000 people have been able to cross the border between Gaza and Egypt,” the European Union’s (EU) Javier Solana said on a December 18 visit to Gaza. Solana is the EU’s senior representative for security and foreign policy.

WTO Success Depends on EU Farm Tariff Cuts, U.S. Official Says

Secretary Johanns, back from Hong Kong, predicts difficult year ahead

Washington File, December 19, 2005

Washington -- The chance of success for long-stalled World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations depends on the European Union (EU) changing its position on reducing agricultural tariffs, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns says.

Shortly after arriving back in Washington December 19, Johanns told reporters by Webcast about the grueling WTO ministerial meeting in Hong Kong that ended a few hours earlier.

While the ministers agreed to set a 2013 deadline for eliminating agricultural export subsidies, he said, they left the most difficult challenges for 2006, the year that the negotiations, formally called the Doha Development Agenda, are scheduled to conclude.

"Hong Kong left the hard work for 2006," Johanns said. "Let's just be blunt about it."

The best deal many developing countries could get from the Doha round is more market access for their goods, especially agricultural goods, he said. ...

TRANSCRIPT OF TELE-NEWS CONFERENCE with Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns Regarding the WTO Ministerial in Hong Kong Washington D.C., December 19, 2005

A Renewed Partnership for Global Engagement

Remarks by R. Nicholas Burns, Under Secretary for Political Affairs

European Institute Annual Gala Dinner, Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D.C., December 15, 2005

REMARKS AS PREPARED

...

We End 2005 In Better Shape Than We Started

I lived in Europe for the last eight years -- in Greece and Belgium -- and I saw the sea change in our relations in 2005. First, we rebuilt bridges across the Atlantic. The President's trips to Europe over the past year, and the constant travel and contact by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Deputy Secretary Bob Zoellick, myself, and many other senior U.S. officials, led Europe and the U.S. to rediscover each other -- and helped restore the links vital to our Diplomatic contact as we worked toward a revitalized NATO and a stronger U.S.-EU agenda.

Second, we stopped the war of words across the Atlantic, and began a kinder, gentler year in trans-Atlantic discourse. For your part, most Europeans stopped talking about the absurd notion of the EU acting as a counterweight to the United States. And debates seemed to re-center on policy, rather than on anti-Americanism. For our part, Americans stopped using the words "freedom fries" to describe that wonderful American culinary delicacy and started calling them "French fries" once again. And, we also stopped pouring perfectly good French wine down the gutter, as some foolish people did back in 2003.

Third, we recognized the truth about our relationship: that we are wed together in a long-term marriage with no possibility of separation or divorce. This partnership is based upon our trillion dollar economic and trade relationship, our symbiotic defense relationship in NATO, and our shared culture, history, values and commitment to democracy.

Ladies and gentlemen, in 2005, we got up off the psychiatric couch and started working together again.

Putting Transatlantic Power to Work for Freedom

Remarks by Daniel Fried, Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs

American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C., December 14, 2005

...

The Concerted Effort of Free Nations

... As President Bush has said, "All the allies of the United States can know we honor your friendship, we rely on your counsel and we depend on your help. The concerted effort of free nations to promote democracy is a prelude to our enemies' defeat." Let me repeat that: "The concerted effort of free nations to promote democracy is a prelude to our enemies' defeat." It is my contention today that since the President's Second Inaugural, which set out the freedom agenda, we have made significant progress to develop just this "concerted effort of free nations" and we have put it to work on an agenda to advance freedom in the world.

Let me note some progress in this battle of ideas. Let me recall Chancellor Merkel's Bundestag speech of November 30th, of which a major theme was freedom - her word - and during which she spoke of support for NATO and common values with the United States.

Let me note our recent agreement with the European Union, the joint EU-U.S. promotion of democracy around the world, from Belarus to Burma, would be a priority for joint action.

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CRS REPORTS FOR CONGRESS

Congressional Research Service/ Library of Congress

[U.S.-EU Cooperation Against Terrorism](#)

Updated July 12, 2005

The September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks gave new momentum to European Union (EU) initiatives to improve law enforcement cooperation against terrorism both among its 25 member states and with the United States. Washington has largely welcomed these efforts, recognizing that they may help root out terrorist cells and prevent future attacks. However, the United States and the EU continue to face several challenges as they seek to promote closer cooperation in the police, judicial, and border control fields. This report will be updated as needed.

[The European Union in 2005 and Beyond](#)

Updated July 11, 2005

The European Union (EU) has experienced significant changes over the last few years. The EU has enlarged from 15 to 25 members and has been working to implement a new constitutional treaty to institute internal reforms and further political integration. The EU has also taken steps toward developing a common foreign policy and defense arm. This report describes the current status of the EU's constitutional treaty, EU enlargement, the EU's evolving foreign and defense policies, and possible implications for U.S.-EU relations.

[U.S.-European Union Trade Relations: Issues and Policy Challenges](#)

Updated June 20, 2005

Major U.S.-EU trade challenges can be grouped into five categories: (1) complying with WTO rulings; (2) resolving longstanding trade disputes involving aerospace production subsidies and beef hormones; (3) dealing with different public concerns over new technologies and new industries; (4) fostering cooperative competition policies; and (5) strengthening the multilateral trading system.

[European Union Enlargement](#)

Updated June 10, 2005

On May 1, 2004, 10 states joined the European Union (EU), enlarging the Union to 25 members. The EU views the enlargement process as a historic opportunity to promote stability and prosperity in Europe. In addition to the 10 new members (Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, and Slovenia), Bulgaria and Romania hope to accede to the EU in 2007. Turkey and Croatia began accession negotiations in October 2005. Macedonia has also applied for EU membership.

[The European Union: Questions and Answers](#)

Updated June 10, 2005

This report provides answers to key questions related to the European Union (EU). It describes the EU's evolution, its governing institutions, trade policy, and efforts to forge common foreign and defense policies. The report also addresses the EU-U.S. and EU-NATO relationships.

The United States and Europe: Current Issues

Updated June 10, 2005

The United States and Europe share a long and intertwined history. Despite the end of the Cold War, both sides of the Atlantic continue to face a common set of international concerns, have few other comparable partners, and share a huge economic relationship. Nevertheless, numerous foreign policy and trade conflicts have seriously challenged U.S.-European relations in recent years. This report examines the current state of the transatlantic relationship and key issues in Europe and beyond that have implications for U.S. interests.

The European Union's Constitution

Updated June 10, 2005

In June 2004, the European Union (EU) concluded work on a constitutional treaty that contains changes to the EU's governing institutions and decision-making processes. Commonly referred to as the "constitution," this new treaty aims to institute internal reforms to enable a larger EU to operate effectively and prevent gridlock, but it must be ratified by all member states to enter into force. The future of the EU's constitution, however, has been thrown in doubt after French and Dutch voters rejected it in separate referenda in May and June 2005. This report provides background information on the constitution, its key provisions, the current crisis, and possible implications for U.S.-EU relations.

The European Parliament

Updated April 5, 2005

The 732-member, directly-elected European Parliament (EP) is a key institution of the 25-member European Union (EU). Once limited to being a consultative assembly, the EP has accumulated more power over time. Currently, it plays a role in the EU's legislative and budgeting processes, and exercises general supervision over other EU bodies. The EP continues to face several challenges, however, especially in relation to its democratic legitimacy and operational costs. The most recent EP elections were held in June 2004.

The United States and Europe: Possible Options for U.S. Policy

Updated March 8, 2005

This report assesses the present state of the U.S.-European relationship and the reasons for current frictions. To stimulate debate and for the purposes of analysis, it also offers a spectrum of possible options for U.S. policymakers in considering the future shape of the political and strategic dimensions of the transatlantic partnership.

NATO and the European Union

Updated May 12, 2005

This report addresses several questions central to the debate over European security and the future of the broader transatlantic relationship.

EU-U.S. Economic Ties: Framework, Scope, and Magnitude

Updated April 15, 2005

U.S. and EU policymakers will continually face the task of how to manage the increasingly complex bilateral economic relationship in ways that maximize benefits and keep frictions to a minimum. For Members of Congress it means weighing the benefits of greater economic integration against the costs to constituents in the context of overall U.S. national interests.

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MEDIA ITEMS

(If you are interested in receiving any of the articles listed below, please contact arc@usembassy.at)

The Turkish Military's March Toward Europe

By Ersel Aydinli, Nihat Ali Özcan and Dogan Akyaz, *Foreign Affairs*, January/February 2006

Without the Turkish military's support, Ankara cannot comply with the reforms necessary for Turkey to join the EU. So far, the top brass have cooperated, even when reforms have curbed their power, because they have looked at EU membership as both the culmination of the country's modernization and a way to battle nagging domestic problems. But how much further will they go?

Arming Europe

By Seth G. Jones and Stephen Larrabee, *The National Interest*, Winter 2005/06

Since the end of the Cold War, Europe's defense industry has undergone important changes. There has been marked consolidation of the defense industry and a visible increase in intra-European collaboration. Jones and Larrabee discuss several factors that have been responsible for the consolidation of the European defense industry since the end of the Cold War.

Getting to No: The Limits of Multilateralism

James M Goldgeier and Steven Weber, *The National Interest*, Winter 2005/06

Last December the United States was presented with two breakthroughs, each poised to advance a key U.S. foreign policy priority: the promotion of democracy and nuclear non-proliferation. In Ukraine the "Orange Revolution" thwarted a corrupt government's efforts to use a fraudulent vote count to install a hand-picked successor and brought to power as president Viktor Yushchenko, a leader committed not only to democratic reform at home but to integrating Ukraine into the Euro-Atlantic community. Iran had agreed with the EU-3 (Britain, France and Germany) to suspend temporarily its uranium-enrichment activities during negotiations over its nuclear program.

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AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT ITEMS

Events



Conference "The Sound of Europe"

Salzburg, Austria, January 26-28, 2006

Together with the European Commission, the Austrian Presidency of the EU is holding a conference on the future of Europe next week (27-28 January) entitled "The Sound of Europe". The conference will take place in the congress centre in Salzburg, the city in which Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born exactly 250 years ago.

The conference participants will discuss fundamental questions as to the future of Europe, European values, identity and culture. "The Sound of Europe" follows on from a series of events held in 2004 under the Dutch EU Presidency on the subject of "Europe. A beautiful idea?", which culminated in a final conference in Rotterdam. At the same time, the conference will give the starting signal for as wide-ranging a debate as possible on the future development of Europe, in keeping with the reflection and discussion phase decided by the European Council in June.

More than 300 personalities from the world of politics, science, arts and the media will deliberate on prospects and proposals for making progress on the European project in view of global challenges. The unease and scepticism people express about Europe will also be addressed, and the underlying causes analysed.

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Operational Programme

[Operational Programme of the Council 2006](#) (pdf)

submitted by the incoming Austrian and Finnish Presidencies

This programme sets out the main objectives for the work of the Council in 2006. It is drawn up by the future Austrian and Finnish Presidencies on the basis of the Multi-annual Programme covering the years 2004-2006. Recent debates have underlined the importance of the Union concentrating on issues which matter to citizens in their everyday lives. The two Presidencies will work closely together in order to ensure that the work of the Council during 2006 contributes to economic and social welfare, protection of environment, freedom and security of European citizens as well as strengthening the role of the Union within the world. Work underway on a number of key priorities designed to ensure that the EU responds successfully to the challenges and opportunities of globalisation will be carried forward.

To this end the Presidencies will cooperate with all the Member States within the Council, as well as with the European Parliament and the Commission to enhance overall effectiveness and continuity of the Union's action. Both Austria and Finland will pay particular attention to the smooth and effective functioning of the Council and to ensuring as much transparency as possible in the exercise of the function of the Presidency.

[GLOSSARY for the Operational Programme](#) (pdf)

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Press Releases and Speeches

(for a complete listing of press releases and speeches please see:

<http://www.eu2006.at/en/index.html>)

[Speech by the President of the European Council, Federal Chancellor Wolfgang Schüssel](#)

Presentation of the Austrian Presidency's programme,
European Parliament, January 18, 2006

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is an honour and a pleasure for me to address the European Parliament. This Parliament is the product of an historic election. For the first time, 25 countries freely entered an election and chose their representatives. This Chamber represents the Populus Europaeus. This Parliament illustrates Europe's strength, its diversity, its ideas and experiences, its history and its histories, and its hope. The sound of Europe is not a solo instrument but an orchestra, like this Parliament. Europe is not monochrome but multicoloured, as is the logo of the Austrian Presidency. Its strength lies in diversity, the different identities making up the European identity. No country has lost, all countries have benefited from their accession to the Union. We have gained freedom, peace, security and opportunities to prosper.

Yet if everything is so marvellous - whence this noticeable scepticism on the part of many of its citizens? A precise analysis is needed to answer the question: the high points of 2004 were followed by a difficult phase in 2005. The negative results of the two constitutional referenda in France and the Netherlands, the arduous tug-of-war over the Financial Perspective, the terrorist attacks in some EU capitals and people's growing concern



Wednesday, 18 January 2006. The current Council President, Federal Chancellor Wolfgang Schüssel, presented the Austrian Presidency programme for the first 6 months of 2006 to MEPs in Strasbourg. -
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regarding further EU enlargement engendered a lack of confidence between the populations and the EU institutions.

It is precisely at this point that the Austrian Presidency wishes to make a start: at the end of the Presidency, public confidence in the EU, the mutual trust among Member States and their confidence in the Union and the trust among the institutions is to grow again. For this to happen, however, we need clarity regarding the important issues that exercise people. ...

Bartenstein: Europe's natural gas supply must be placed on a sound footing

Topical and urgent debate on energy policy during the European Parliament plenary session, January 17, 2006

"The events at the beginning of the year have shown that Europe cannot take secure energy supplies for granted. The appropriate lessons must now be learnt from these events and action taken to secure Europe's energy supplies in the long term", Austria's Economics and Labour Minister Martin Bartenstein, the current Council President, said on Tuesday during a topical and urgent debate on energy policy at the European Parliament plenary session in Strasbourg. According to Bartenstein, the European Commission and Austrian Presidency's diplomatic initiative had succeeded in restoring the uninterrupted transport of gas from Russia to Europe through the Ukraine.

Bartenstein argued in favour of expanding gas storage capacity, increasing intra-Community exchanges of gas and improving energy efficiency on the demand side. The use of nuclear energy was "not an option" for him and was definitely excluded in Austria.

Plassnik: "Joint commitment to peace and democracy"

Plassnik meets with new US ambassador in Vienna, January 16, 2006

Vienna, 16 January 2006 - Today, the new US ambassador to Vienna, Susan McCaw, paid her inaugural visit to Foreign Minister Ursula Plassnik. Their talks focused on the excellent state of the bilateral relations and on the forthcoming agenda of the Austrian EU Presidency. Further topics included the most recent developments in Iran, the Middle East and in Afghanistan as well as the relations between the United States and the EU.

"For us the United States is an indispensable partner. We will work together closely in the coming months, particularly with regard to the planned summit and the numerous other meetings to be held during the Presidency," said Plassnik. The Foreign Minister also took the opportunity to reiterate the EU's clear attitude with regard to CIA prisoner transports and the Guantanamo prison camp.

Plassnik: "Objective and unbiased cooperation"

Foreign Minister Plassnik meets with new Turkish ambassador in Vienna, January 16, 2006

Vienna, 16 January 2006 - Today, the new ambassador of the Republic of Turkey, Izzet Selim Yenel, paid his inaugural visit to Foreign Minister Ursula Plassnik. Before becoming ambassador to Vienna, Selim Yenel was Deputy Director General for EU Affairs at the Turkish Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

"The EU accession negotiations will be a drawn-out process for Turkey. Both Turkey and the EU will have to do their homework. The Austrian Presidency will fulfil its task in this respect in an objective and unbiased manner," said Plassnik.

Gastinger: Europol and the role of justice

"Judicial monitoring of police powers is necessary and important for the balance of the rule of law.", January 14, 2006

Under the planned European security architecture, the role of Europol is to be expanded towards that of a European investigative authority with police powers. This obviously raises the question of appropriate monitoring of the exercise of these powers, such as rests with the courts in the national systems.

At the European level, therefore, similar checks and balances must be established (conduct of certain investigations only at the request of the Office of the Public Prosecutor and after approval by the court). One possibility here is a gradual expansion of the role of EUROJUST.

In a first stage, however, progress towards this objective could be made if Europol were to make increased use of the instrument of joint investigative groups, because in the context of such groups the involvement of, and control by, the national courts, before whom the proceedings must ultimately be conducted, would be secured. Such joint investigative groups could only be

established, for example, in Austria through an application of the Office of the Public Prosecutor and under the direction of the investigative magistrate (Section 61(2) of the EU-JZG).

Prokop: More efficient structures in the fight against crime and terrorism

Debate started about the future of Europol - The West Balkans are the focus for implementing the external strategy, January 14, 2006

On the second and last day of their meeting in Vienna the Interior and Justice Ministers of the 25 EU countries discussed the future of Europol and external relations in the area of the interior and justice. "We have a uniform position on the existing instruments, especially Europol and the Schengen Information System (SIS). These facilitate police collaboration and help to structure it effectively", according to the Council President, Minister of the Interior Liese Prokop. "We would like to conduct the debate about the basic role and orientation of Europol without taboos and prejudices", Prokop continued.

She emphasised that a comprehensive debate on the future architecture of the internal security of the EU had been successfully started. The ministers had agreed that existing institutions had to be strengthened, expanded and made more effective and efficient. In this way, their added value to the Member States could be increased. During the Austrian Presidency, therefore, an arrangement was to be introduced for better horizontal coordination.

Maria Rauch-Kallat to attend the International Avian Flu Donors' Conference in Beijing

January 14, 2006

Health Minister Maria Rauch-Kallat is engaged in a battle together with many other countries to stem the tide of avian flu. "The only effective means of preventing an outbreak and possible pandemic among the human population is to fight the avian flu epidemic", stated the Minister.

On 17 and 18 January, Maria Rauch-Kallat will participate in the International Donors' Conference in Beijing as the representative of Austria and the EU Presidency. Representatives from Asian countries, WHO, UN Senior Coordinator David Nabarro, EU Commissioner Markos Kyprianou and representatives of the World Bank will also attend. The aim is to define and finance measures in order to effectively combat the epidemic in the countries affected.

They will seek to raise a total of USD 1 billion. The European Commission expects to raise EUR 80 million, the USA around EUR 130 million and Japan EUR 120 million. Germany and France are expected to raise at least EUR 10 million each, and Switzerland has promised to provide CHF 6 million.

Plassnik: "Full EU support for the OSCE"

Belgian Foreign Minister in Vienna, January 13, 2006

Vienna, 13 January 2006 - Foreign Minister Ursula Plassnik had talks with her Belgian counterpart Karel De Gucht in Vienna yesterday. Belgium's presidency of the OSCE and EU-OSCE relations were the main theme of the meeting. The Ministers also discussed topical issues such as EU relations with Iran and the debate on the future of Europe.

Plassnik congratulated De Gucht on his dynamic start to the OSCE presidency and assured him of Austria's full support in its capacity as EU Presidency and host country for the OSCE. "The EU and OSCE have common interests in many areas. We will work closely together in the coming months", Plassnik said. ...

Prokop: Safety is a fundamental value

Informal Meeting of Justice and Home Affairs Ministers has begun in Vienna, January 13, 2006

Asylum and migration issues were on the agenda on the first day of the Informal Meeting of Justice and Home Affairs taking place in Vienna on 13-14 January. A broad consensus emerged on important issues, such as measures to establish a common EU asylum system.

Practical cooperation between the Member States is to be stepped up through the following measures:

- work on a common information system on the situation in the countries of origin and
- EU support in future for Member States requiring assistance in the area of asylum/migration in special circumstances.

Joint return of asylum seekers was also discussed. "Return conditions must be humane", Prokop said. The Austrian Presidency had made very specific proposals on this, for instance the organisation of charter flights by the EU.

Another important topic discussed was the definition of "safe" third countries. The discussion had shown that this subject needed to be taken up again. It was not acceptable within the EU-25 to have totally different treatment of asylum seekers and a different legal assessment of third countries, according to Prokop. ...

Conference: "Greening Events" on 16 and 17 January in the Vienna Hofburg

January 12, 2006

Vienna (OTS) – On 16 January, Environment Minister Josef Pröll will open the "Greening Events" conference at the Hofburg in Vienna. International and Austrian experts will discuss new ways to successfully organise large-scale events such as the 2008 European Championships, the European Culture Capital Linz 2009 and the Roskilde Festival (one of the world's largest music festivals) in an environmentally friendly, socially just and, at the same time, economical way. Since the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002, political conferences dealing with environmental issues, and above all large-scale sports and cultural events, have been established as the international norm. The ideas range from waste management, catering with regional and seasonal biofood and "fair-trade" products to specially designed access facilities for disabled persons. With the slogan "Greening the Austrian EU Presidency 2006 - Greening Events", the Austrian EU Presidency has set itself the task of organising its events in a sustainable manner.

Schüssel: Give Europe fresh impetus

January 9, 2006

The Austrian Presidency's concrete plans were discussed today at the working meeting between the Austrian Government and the European Commission. These include measures to stimulate the European economy and labour market and a wide-ranging discussion on the future of Europe.

Chancellor Schüssel stressed the positive climate of the talks between his Government and the Commission. "The European Union can only be strong if we all work together on this important European project that is our destiny, vision, dream and practical reality", the Chancellor said.

Bartenstein: Austria has highest gas storage capacity in the EU

Austria has gas storage capacity equivalent to one third of annual consumption -

Bartenstein welcomes EU discussion on gas storage, January 9, 2006

Vienna (Min. Econ. Lab./OTS) - Austria is the EU country with the biggest gas storage capacity, currently around 2.8 billion cubic metres or one third of its annual consumption of natural gas. In terms of annual consumption, this is equivalent to twice the EU average. Some countries have no storage capacity at all.

In this context, Economics Minister Martin Bartenstein has welcomed Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs' proposal that each country should have stocks to bridge at least two months' consumption. Bartenstein: "Austria built up its stocks in good time. The whole EU must now take action to protect itself better against interruptions to, and fluctuations in, gas supplies."

Plassnik: "EU Presidency requires team work"

Foreign Minister Plassnik at Slovenian Ambassadors' Conference, January 4, 2006

Brdo, 4 January 2006 - At the invitation of her Slovenian counterpart Dimitrij Rupel, Foreign Minister Ursula Plassnik participated in today's Ambassadors' Conference at Brdo, Slovenia. Slovenia will take over the EU Presidency in the first half of 2008 and is therefore especially interested in Austria's experiences. At the Austrian Ministry for Foreign Affairs two young Slovenian diplomats are already making preparations for this task.

Slovenia and Austria work together closely in the EU. One of the common priorities of this cooperation is the concrete implementation of the European perspective for the Balkans. "We have to explain the European peace project on the basis of the respective specific task: for Slovenia and Austria it is now the step-by-step integration of our Balkan partners in the European unification process," said Plassnik. ...

Foreign Minister Plassnik on the beginning of the EU Presidency

Plassnik: "Work together to inject Europe with new vitality",
January 1, 2006

Vienna, 1 January 2006 - Austria today takes over the Presidency of the Council of the EU for the second time. "In consultation with our European partners, we will tackle in particular the issues that concern citizens in Austria and the rest of Europe: jobs and growth, securing and developing the European social model and boosting people's confidence in the European project. Europe should be a strong, reliable partner in the world", Minister Plassnik said.

"The agreement on the EU budget was a major step. I am particularly pleased that additional resources will now be available over the next seven years for the key areas of research and development, for Austria's farmers and rural development, and for people living in the border regions. This agreement must now be put into practice during our Presidency. We will work closely with the European Parliament to this end.



Message from Federal Chancellor Wolfgang Schüssel

Beginning of the Austrian EU Council Presidency, January 1, 2006

From 1 January 2006, Austria assumes the role of Presidency of the Council of the European Union. For the next six months, the members of Austria's Federal Government will chair the meetings of the European Council and endeavour to serve the Community well.

Our Presidency will have to address a number of major issues crucial to the future of the European Union. The Financial Perspective 2007-2013 adopted by the 25 Heads of State and Government in December 2005 must now also gain the consent of the European Parliament and the Commission. Furthermore, the period of reflection on the future of Europe is to be evaluated during these six months in order to find a way forward on the European Constitutional Treaty. Measures to promote growth, jobs, research and technological development as well as questions of enhanced security cooperation also make for a busy agenda.



Winkler: "Bulgaria is on the right course"

State Secretary Winkler on talks in Bulgaria, December 23, 2005

Sofia, 23 December 2005 - "Bulgaria is currently passing through an important stage and is on the right course to meet the requirements for future membership of the EU in good time," said State Secretary Hans Winkler during a visit to Sofia. "However, Bulgaria still has to make a considerable effort to achieve the goal of accession according to schedule, a goal that is also pursued by Austria," emphasised the State Secretary after talks with Meglena Kuneva, Minister for European Affairs, and Lyubomir Kyuchukov, Deputy Foreign Minister.

The talks focused on Bulgaria's accession endeavours, the projects planned by Austria's EU Presidency, regional issues, in particular the Western Balkans, and an increased regional cooperation in the fight against organised crime. The Austrian side drew particular attention to domestic security, above all the control of the EU's external borders, and to the fight against corruption and crime. "Urgent action is still required in some areas," said Winkler, expressing the hope that Bulgaria would use the remaining time to the best of its abilities....

Plassnik: "We need a policy of encouragement rather than dejection"

Developing a choreography for the future together, December 21, 2005

Vienna, 21 December 2005 - On the occasion of the statement of government policy in the National Council today, Foreign Minister Ursula Plassnik spoke of the tasks facing Austria as it takes over the EU Council Presidency.

Now that the lead curtain of the Financial Perspective had been removed, said Plassnik, the Austrian Presidency had its hands free to address the most urgent issues on the EU agenda. The Austrian Presidency had a demanding task in front of it. "We will take advantage of the positive mood following a lean year in Europe in 2005. It is important to shift our attention away from the deficiencies towards the achievements of this European community devoted to peace and solidarity and to concentrate on the list of specific projects," said the Foreign Minister.

[Plassnik: "An eye for the possible"](#)

Foreign Minister presents EU Annual Programme for 2006 together with Finland, December 19, 2005

Brussels/Vienna, 19 December 2005 - "The actions of living things cannot be calculated", said Foreign Minister Plassnik today, quoting Kafka at the start of her joint presentation with the Finnish Secretary of State for EU Affairs, Antti Peltomäki, of the Austrian-Finnish Annual Programme for the two EU Presidencies of the coming year.

Plassnik underlined the team spirit with which Austria was approaching her Presidency of the EU and the close cooperation between Austria and Finland in their preparations for their forthcoming Presidencies. The latter had worked outstandingly well at all levels, and was therefore highly likely to serve as a model for future Presidencies too.

[Plassnik: "Increasing demand for Europe in the world"](#)

Europe's added value becomes visible through multifaceted foreign missions, December 13, 2005

Vienna, 13 December 2005 - Foreign Minister Ursula Plassnik met for talks today with the Secretary-General of the Council and High Representative of the EU Common Foreign and Security Policy, Javier Solana.

The talks previewed Austria's EU Presidency and the likely priorities of the European Foreign and Security Policy in the first half of 2006, including south-eastern Europe and the Middle East. "Much progress has been made in the field of the Common Foreign and Security Policy in recent years. The various crisis management activities have clearly increased the visibility and credibility of European foreign policy," said the Foreign Minister. ...

[Plassnik: "Giving visibility to Austria's contribution to the peace and security policy"](#)

Foreign Minister emphasises Austria's commitment in south-eastern Europe, December 14, 2005

Vienna, 14 December 2005 - "I am concerned to make Austria's contribution to the peace and security policies of the European Union and the United Nations visible," explained Foreign Minister Plassnik at the traditional press conference prior to the European Council.

"On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Austria's membership of the UN and shortly before the beginning of Austria's EU Presidency it is of particular importance to turn attention to Austria's commitment to peace and stability in the world," said Plassnik. ...

[Plassnik: "Gradually giving substance to European prospects"](#)

Foreign Minister in the EU Main Committee in preparation for the European Council, December 13, 2005

Vienna, 13 December 2005 - "We give answers where decisions have to be made and substantiated," emphasised Foreign Minister Ursula Plassnik at today's meeting of the National Council's Main Committee in preparation for the last European Council before the beginning of Austria's Presidency. "This is the best way of shoring up confidence again," said Plassnik.

"The Balkans will be the foreign policy focus of Austria's Presidency," said Plassnik. "The objective will be to gradually give substance to the dynamic concept of European prospects for the region," continued Plassnik....

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EU ITEMS

[Austrian Presidency - MEPs set out their priorities](#)

European Council, January 18, 2006

MEPs debated the Austrian Presidency with Federal Chancellor Wolfgang Schüssel. The House was particularly concerned with the fate of the European Constitution, the EU's budget and the services directive.

Colours of Europe were as varied as those of a rainbow, Austrian Chancellor Wolfgang SCHÜSSEL told MEPs: *"The strength of Europe is in its diversity; no country loses out by joining the EU - it*

creates freedom, security, peace and the chance for prosperity... so why are there doubts and scepticism?" The enlargement of 2004 had been a high point, but a difficult period had followed with the two 'no' votes after three years of debate on the Constitution, terrorist attacks, a tug of war on the Financial Perspective and growing public doubts about future enlargement. He told Parliament the Austrian presidency would aim to rebuild confidence in Europe. There needed to be confidence between the Member States and between institutions. "We need to establish clarity about questions which really concern people. As in quantum physics, the questions you ask create reality. What are the right questions? We need to be honest, and look at unpleasant answers as well. Europe must be useful and protect its citizens from the real threats that exist."...

Remarks on the programme of the Austrian Presidency of the European Union

By José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission, Plenary Session of the European Parliament, Strasbourg, January 18, 2006

...
Growth and jobs are the core preoccupation of our citizens. We must show them that Europe can deliver a credible response to their concerns. The Spring European Council in March is the first real test of the determination of all actors to move forward towards economic reform and modernisation.

Member States have drawn up their national reform programmes.

The Commission is finalising its appraisal of these programmes and will report to the Spring European Council.

I should like to thank the European Parliament for its support and look forward to continue working closely with you on the growth and jobs agenda. The parliamentary dimension of the Lisbon Agenda is not window-dressing but an essential element in promoting and ensuring support for the implementation of the necessary reforms.

In this sense, we can say that the revised Lisbon agenda has already been successful: it has managed to create a common vision and a strong consensus. Nobody seriously contests any longer that the priority must be on growth and jobs.

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USEFUL LINKS

Government pages

- **U.S. – EU/ U.S. Embassy website**
http://www.usembassy.at/en/policy/us_eu.htm
- **U.S. – EU Relations/ Bureau of International Information Programs**
http://usinfo.state.gov/eur/europe_eurasia/us_eu_relations.html
- **Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs/ U.S. Department of State**
<http://www.state.gov/p/eur/>
The Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, headed by Assistant Secretary Daniel Fried, implements U.S. foreign policy in Europe and Eurasia. The Bureau promotes U.S. interests in the region on issues such as national security, NATO enlargement, coordination with the European Union and other regional organizations, support for democracy, human rights, civil society, economic prosperity, the war on terrorism, and nonproliferation.
 - **European Union** - <http://www.state.gov/p/eur/rt/eu/>
- **Austrian Presidency of the Council of the EU** -
<http://www.eu2006.at/en/index.html>
- **The United States Mission to the European Union** - <http://www.useu.be/>
- **Europe – Gateway to the European Union**
http://europa.eu.int/index_en.htm
- **Eurobarometer**
http://europa.eu.int/comm/public_opinion/index_en.htm

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Selected U.S. media with EU section

- **The Washington Post**
International/ Europe: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/world/europe/index.html>
- **The New York Times**
International/ Europe:
<http://www.nytimes.com/pages/world/europe/index.html>
- **CNN**
Europe: <http://www.cnn.com/WORLD/europe/archive/>

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Selected Austrian media with EU section

- **Der Standard**
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- **Die Presse**
Europe: <http://www.diepresse.com/taneu/eu.htm>
- **Wiener Zeitung**
Europe:
<http://www.wienerzeitung.at/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabID=3857&Alias=wzo>

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Additional sites

- **EUpolitix**: <http://www.eupolitix.com/EN/>
- **EurActiv** – EU Policy News and Links: <http://www.euractiv.com/>
- **Eubusiness** – European Business News Online: <http://www.eubusiness.com/>
- **EU Reporter**: <http://www.eureporter.co.uk/>
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